EVEL
ONE

Suddenly
from heaven
there came a sound
like the rush of a violent
wind, and it filled
the entire house
where they were sitting
Acts 2:2

Soundings

News and Information from the
Northwest Washington Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Volume 21, Number 11 *December 2004*

Mission Trips

by
Rachel Ashleman and Carly Sheldahl, First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Shoreline

Editor's Note: This is just one article about our youth mission trips. Please plan on looking at the January issue to The Lutheran magazine. You'll be able to read more about our youth mission trips.

This summer the youth from First Lutheran of Richmond Beach and Oak Harbor Lutheran went to Chicago to serve the community there. There are more people who live in poverty in Chicago than who live in the city of Shoreline, where we are from. The 'projects', as they are called, house many families that live on less than $5000 a year!

It was a very different trip than we had done before. We focused on serving the people rather than building a house. We worked in several day cares with poor preschoolers. We read stories, played outside and just spent time with the kids. We gave them attention that they do not seem to get from other people. We also spent time helping to remodel an old synagogue into a church, and helped at local food banks and soup kitchens. We worked in the Chicago Food Depository and several area food banks. When we were finished with our time in Chicago we took our blankets to a local shelter and gave them to them to keep.

It was a great experience for us to be able to serve people who live very differently from us and to see some of the social issues that people in our own country face. After going to an Indian reservation and to Mexico (on mission trips) it was amazing to see how people who are relatively like us live on so much less.

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Sharing Our Faith Stories

If you receive The Lutheran magazine then you know that you receive something special with your subscription. Four times a year a special supplement is inserted in the magazine and you are able to read how we, in the Northwest Washington Synod, are living out our faith—celebrating our love of Jesus Christ.

To continue to share these stories of faith with you and others, the Synod's Communication Committee needs your help. (We are now being asked by The Lutheran magazine to pay for the four supplements. There is no line item in the Synod's budget for this cost.) The Communication Committee believes that the supplements are important and that we need to continue to share these stories through the supplements.

Each supplement costs $350 and reaches 7,500 households. By supporting one or more of these inserts you can be assured that our faith stories will continue to be celebrated. And your support will be mentioned in the supplement. Can you help? Please contact Margit Peiffle, Communication Specialist, at 425-299-6667 or email margit@lutheransnw.org. Thank you.

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206-783-9292 or 1-800-244-6997 (Wash. State); Fax: 206-783-9833.
Email: office@lutheransnw.org. Website: www.lutheransnw.org.

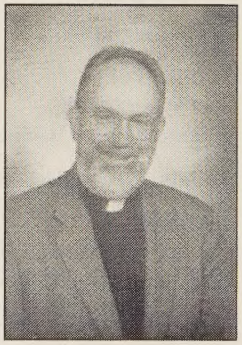
Synod Office Staff:
***The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop**—boerger@lutheransnw.org*
***The Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop**—nesse@lutheransnw.org*
***Jim Goeben, Webmaster**—jim@lutheransnw.org*
***Elaine Harrison, Office Assistant**—elaine@lutheransnw.org*
***Margit Peiffle, Communication Specialist**—margit@lutheransnw.org*
***General Office Information**—office@lutheransnw.org*

*Deadline for the **January 2005 issue of Soundings and The Spirit** is Monday, Dec. 6. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; margit@lutheransnw.org; 425-299-6667; fax 360-435-5955.*

Permission is granted for congregations to copy Soundings and The Spirit. Newsletters are available to download at www.lutheransnw.org.

A Word From The Bishop

"For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."
1 Corinthians 1:22-24 NRSV



The Rev. Chris Boerger

I write this on November 3rd, the day after the election. The results are still being debated and there are a couple of races yet to be declared. The thought that comes to me this morning is the continuing challenge that comes to the children of God. Regardless of the outcomes, we are still called to be God's agents of confession, absolution and compassion in the world.

The commentators' surprise at the role of "morality" in people as part of the decision making process should not lull us into a sense that the world around us is becoming more interested in God's reign on earth or in heaven. Lutherans, of all people, should know that ours is not a moral problem. Our problem is always one of rebellion. Reducing the nature of sin to simple morality replaces breaking the first commandment with simple platitudes about living a better life.

I have said for some time that Lutheran theology is the right tool for responding to the world around us. The temptation to let elected officials be both the right and left hand of God is not helpful. Bishop Hanson's challenge to us to become public leaders needs to come from the best of our theological thinking. It does not come from an emotional reaction pro or con to the current political realities in our world.

We, Lutherans, have a different definition of sin. It is not simply commandment breaking or avoidance. My professor, Dr. Robert Bertram, always asked the question, "Is it worse than that?" His point was that until I can see that any sin is ultimately about my being and not just about my doing I belittle the problem and I rob the cross of Jesus of its power to heal and to amend my life. That view of our sin and of Jesus' power is missing in the public discussions of morality.

Winners or losers, we have much work to do. First we need to return to the cross for its power to break and remake us. The church is not the society of the innocent in an evil world. We are the community of sinners, made saints by the power of God's grace. We are the people who hear God's call to be the children of the light who now act as citizens under the reign of our God.

Report of the Synod Treasurer

By Richard Bridges, Treasurer

206-728-5627
richardb@millionairclub.org

Treasurer's Report for the fiscal period 2/1/4 through 9/30/4

Synod Revenue:

The year-to-date benevolence total is $921,985 and we are still ahead of the game compared to every other year. If we look at our budgeted revenue of $1,474,000 in a linear vein, we should have received $982,667 by this time – 2/3rds – so we would consider ourselves 4% behind. If we look at the revenue within the context of historical cash flow, then we are about 5% ahead of the game.

The congregations of our synod have submitted an additional $297,302 dollars for over 80 different designated projects, programs or entities. The largest number belongs to World Hunger at $132,149.

Within Region 1, compared to last year's revenue, Alaska is 7% behind, EWa/ID is 9.5% ahead, Oregon is 1.6% ahead, Montana is 2.6% ahead and SWWA is 6% ahead.

Revenue Passed On To Churchwide:

This synod designates 45% of every dollar to churchwide support. Of the 64 other synods, 47 synods designate more, 5 the same, and 12 give less. The range is from a low of 34% by the Southwest Washington and Eastern Washington/Idaho synods to a high of 61% by the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

In terms of actual dollars received by churchwide at this point, we are 6.3% ahead of last year. We are 1 of 28 synods that are ahead of last year but our rate of increase ranks 5th. Best is the Florida-Bahamas synod – 29% ahead – and worst is Southern Ohio at -51%.

Synod Expense:

The budget to date – on a linear basis – is $986,667. We have spent $937,706; about 5% less. Consequently, all of the category variances are within budget. ["Variance" is the accounting equivalent of the engineering term "delta" which simply means difference.]

Churchwide expense through 31 August: Revenue is running 2.5% ahead of budget; cash flow basis. Their expense budget is 7.3% under-spent. Even so, their fiscal position is $1,944,000 in the red. The following is where the expense dollars go: Division for Congregational Ministries, 7.8%; Division for Ministry, 8.4%; Division for Outreach, 20%; Division for Higher Education, 6%; Division for Church in Society, 4.3%; Division for Global Mission, 19.3%; Commission for Multicultural Ministries, 1.5%; Commission for Women, .44%; Office of the Bishop, 8.6%; Office of the Secretary, 3.9%; Office of the Treasurer, 7.5%; ELCA Foundation and other, 5.3%; and Retiree Health & Benefit, 7%.

Change Your Health Plan Administrator—If you have Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Benefits and are thinking about making a health plan administrator election change, please do so by Dec. 15. More information and change forms are available at www.elcabop.org/benefit_plans/health_benefits/administrator_change.asp

Watch for 2005 Formulary Changes—Brand-name drugs in several therapeutic classes will change to nonformulary, effective Jan. 1.To see which drug classes are affected and for a copy of the 2005 Express Scripts formulary see www.elcabop.org/news_events/plan_changes/

Flexible Spending Account Limit Increased—Flexible spending accounts can help employees manage out-of-pocket expenses such as health care or day care costs by allowing them to set aside payroll dollars on a pre-tax basis. The annual health care account reimbursement limit will increase to $2,500 beginning Jan. 1. To learn more about flexible spending accounts, see www.elcabop.org/resources_tools/administrators/fsa.asp

An In-depth Look At the ELCA High-Yield Bond Fund—A bond fund, like the ELCA High-Yield Bond Fund, invests in many bonds that have been issued by many companies. Investors in any high-yield bond investment should understand that the higher yields they are receiving reflect the higher risk of the bonds within the fund. Learn how these funds can help diversify an ELCA Build-Your-Own portfolio at www.elcabop.org/resources_tools/investment_education

ELCA Investment Performance—For ELCA Retirement Plan investment returns as of Sept. 30, visit www.elcabop.org/news_events/performance

Special Announcement—The mailing of third quarter statements for the ELCA Retirement Plan has been delayed due to an administrative adjustment required as part of an internal quality review. Mellon is making the necessary adjustment and plans to mail statements by the middle of November. As a service unit of the ELCA we take seriously our responsibility to ensure the timely and accurate reporting of your retirement account. We elected to delay the printing and mailing of the third quarter statements for the ELCA Retirement Plan while we work with Mellon on the adjustment. Our quality standards are such that we make this adjustment prior to mailing statements. If you have questions concerning this delay, please contact our service center by email at mail@elcabop.org or by phone at 1-800-352-2876.

Update From The ELCA Board of Pensions

The Synod's local regional representative is

The Rev. Lowell Knutson; 8003 Sandpoint Way NE, B-23, Seattle, WA 98115;

206-528-7422; email knutsonlw@jps.net

State Advocate's Corner

by The Rev. Paul Benz

206-464-4133
pbenz@lcsnw.org

As we draw to the close of another year and are in the Advent Season, I want to give thanks for the support of this Church and its many ministries that touch and transform lives. One of those ministries is the ministry of advocacy—the public church witnessing for the life of the world.

As we reflect on the meaning of Jesus as 'the light of the world', let us also reflect on what that means for us to be "little Christs" as Luther said. Our public witness with and on behalf of the poor and vulnerable is so critical. Lutheran Public Policy Office (LPPO) seeks your help this coming year on the state and federal levels.

One way you can help is by being willing to be a part of a Lutheran Email Alert Network (LEAN) in your state legislative and congressional districts. LPPO needs to have your support and commitment to get this set-up and operational so we can be effective in our ministry of being the public church for the livelihood and sustenance of those on the margins of society. This will help us affect the work of justice for those living in poverty in our state. Let me know right away if you want to be a part of LEAN.

Please put two important dates in your personal and congregational calendars for 2005:

- Lutheran Advocacy Day in Olympia is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1.
- LPPO's Second Annual Fundraiser and Celebration is schedule for Sunday, May 1.

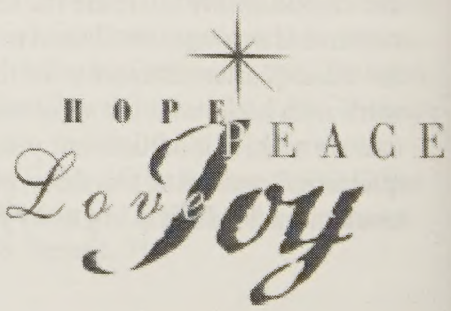
Last, LPPO's 2005 Legislative Priorities are:

- Reducing hunger and poverty (Washington is still 5th highest)
- Affordable and accessible health care for all
- Issues of economic and criminal justice
- Reform of tax structure/review of tax exemptions

The State Legislature begins its session on January 10, 2005. Please pray for your three state legislators and the governor on Sunday, Jan. 9.

I currently have some Sundays available from January through May to visit your congregation for my *Advocacy Teach & Preach*. I would welcome an invitation.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to you!



Renewing Worship

Provisional Resource for Daily Prayer

Daily Prayer, the seventh provisional resource in the Renewing Worship Series, focuses on a pattern of prayer linked to the rhythms of the day and of daily life, primarily in the church's gathering in assembly for these liturgies. It includes examples of how daily prayer may unfold in smaller groups and in personal use.

It is important to note that this volume, *Daily Prayer,* is not a complete collection of the texts and liturgical music to be proposed for daily prayer in the worship resources that will replace *Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW)*. This provisional volume includes mostly a sampling of new material offered for testing and evaluation.

Worship Planning Help

If your congregation is taking an active role in evaluating provisional hymns and songs from the Renewing Worship process, an index has been prepared to assist with your worship planning. The index for Cycle A (Advent 2004-Christ the King Sunday 2005) refers to both *Congregational Song: Proposals for Renewal* and the *Renewing Worship Songbook*.

It's Not Too Late

Next summer the churchwide assembly will receive a proposal from the Renewing Worship team outlining a strategy for the future of worship renewal and resources in the ELCA. It's not too late to get involved. Visit the Renewing Worship website for complete information about this process, provisional materials and directions.

Feedback

Feedback will help shape the subsequent stages of the process toward new worship materials. Evaluations for the different volumes may be submitted together or individually. In order to impact the proposal that will go to the Churchwide Assembly in 2005, evaluations should be received by June 1, 2005.

How To Get The Information

All volumes in the Renewing Worship series are available from Augsburg Fortress. Contact them at www.augsburgfortress.org or at 1-800-328-4648. Complete information about Renewing Worship is available at www.renewingworship.org. The website includes copyright information, evaluation forms, graphics as well as many of the rites and music which are available for viewing and downloading.

Receive Early Release

of Report and Recommendations of ELCA Studies on Sexuality

The Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality has been taking your input very seriously, compiling all responses, and on January 13, 2005, will publicly report and make recommendations.

Our partners in ministry in the ELCA have been working diligently to deliver this report to our rostered leaders before it becomes available to the general public. The plan is for Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson to share the official Task Force report and recommendations with the members of the Conference of Bishops on Tuesday, January 11, 2005. Then, on Wednesday, January 12, 2005, rostered ELCA leaders who have requested to receive the report prior to its public release will receive an email with the private website location (URL). This will allow rostered leaders to read through the report and recommendations before the scheduled ELCA news conference on Thursday, January 13, 2005.

All rostered leaders in our synod have two choices to submit their personal email address to the ELCA. Please submit your personal email address by December 1:

- Send your personal email address to: leaderinfo@elca.org
- Contact the Synod office with your personal email address and we will forward the information on to the ELCA; office@lutheransnw.org

Your personal email address will be used only to receive this special email on Wednesday, January 12. Remember this notification is only for rostered leaders. Please make sure that others do not see the report prior to it being made public. Updates from the Task Force for ELCA studies on Sexuality can be found at www.elca.org/faithfuljourney.

Scholarships Awarded

Sixteen first-year students at the eight seminaries of the ELCA began the 2004-2005 academic year with full-tuition scholarships, and another 15 students had partial-tuition scholarships through the ELCA Fund for Leaders in Mission.

The Fund for Leaders in Mission is an ELCA initiative to build an endowed scholarship resource that provides tuition assistance to qualified candidates studying at the church's eight seminaries. It awarded its first eight scholarships in 2000. In 2003 the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation issued a challenge grant to match $2 million in new contributions from individuals and congregations to the Fund with another $1 million. The Fund has already raised $1.6 million toward meeting the Thrivent Foundation Challenge.

In Region 1 Miriam Schmidt from Chelan received a partial scholarship. For more information visit www.elca.org/fo/FundforLeaders.

Nestingen To Speak In Everett

Join others in Everett for a conversation about "Is it still worth being a Lutheran?" The conversation will be led by the Rev. Dr. James Nestingen at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5, at Central, 2702 Rockefeller, Everett.

Dr. Nestingen is professor of church history at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He likes to emphasize that he teaches concepts that are at the very heart of Lutheranism: justification by faith in Christ Jesus, the freedom of the Gospel, among other things.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit ELCA Disaster Relief, Haiti. This conversation is sponsored by the Sno-Isle Cluster. For more information please contact Pastor Jeff Russell at 425-252-8291.

Partners for Nurture

Theologian Marva Dawn who shares her thoughts on faith, worship, education and justice issues around the world is the keynote speaker at the *2005 Partners for Nurture* event.

This year's theme is *Partnership: Living the Faith.* The theme is based on the Bible verse, "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9 NIV

Join others as *Partners for Nurture* celebrates its 25th Anniversary from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, January 29, at Trinity Lutheran College, 4221 228th Ave SE, Issaquah. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with opening worship at 8:45 a.m. Costs are $30 per individual, for groups of five or more; $35 per individual for groups less than five; and $45 per person after January 17, 2005.

Workshops will be offered throughout the day. To review the available workshops visit www.tlc.edu/partners after Nov. 15. To register, please contact Bobbi Luedke at 253-630-3813 or email DRJCL4@aol.com. Registration materials have been mailed to all congregations.

Lutheran Men In Mission

"An anonymous couple has stepped forward with a $500,000 challenge grant," said Doug Haugen, Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM) director. Since LMM organized in 1988, it has relied on money from the ELCA's churchwide budget for its staffing, ministries and events. Most LMM support comes from individual men's contributions and congregational and synodical men's ministries. "This new opportunity will greatly impact our ministry with young men, our Bible ministry and the success of the Lutheran Men's Gathering next year. And it will have a dramatic impact on our ability to engage every man in a growing relationship with Jesus Christ," Haugen said. Visit www.elca.org/lmm/.

Church. Reborn.

An interactive seminar for all church staff, leaders and members on February 2 and 3 at St. Matthew, Renton. This is a *Church. Reborn. Simulcast Conference.* Those who attend are interested in learning about how we can become more effective in mission and ministry within our congregation and in our outreach with the community, particularly to emerging generations.

Church. Reborn. is a conference presented jointly with Joy Leadership Center and St. Matthew's in Renton.

Simulcast conference speakers include: Walt Kallestad & Tim Wright from the Community Church of Joy; Michael Breen from CCOJ and St. Thomas's Church in Sheffield, England; Ron Mortoia, pastor of a postmodern congregation, Westwinds Community Church, in Jackson, Michigan; and Kelly Fryer, instructor of congregational leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Workshops will be with local leaders who have hands on experience.

This is a wonderful opportunity to bring a team and work together to see what the future might hold for your congregation. (For many churches, the recent past has been one of challenge. Attendance in mainline denominations has been in decline, membership growing older, models of the past less effective. We have felt many of these challenges, moving us to a renewed commitment seeking God for vision and inspiration.)

Group discounts apply call for more details. Please check out our website at www.smlc.cc for more detailed information.

Contact Julie Bailey, 425-226-2420 for registration information or check out Joy's website at www.joylead.org.

An Evening Of Singing

Kristor Hustad and Norma Aamodt-Nelson will be featured in an evening of singing at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19, at Trinity in Lynnwood. In addition to music performed by Hustad and Aamodt-Nelson the audience will be invited to sing carols and choruses of the Christmas season. A reception with hot chocolate and cookies will follow.

Hustad is a tenor who sings with the Staatsoper and the Volksoper in Vienna, Austria, and the Wagner Festival in Bayreuth, Germany.

Aamodt-Nelson is the Minister of Music at Trinity Lutheran Church.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Lutheran Community Services Northwest, whose Capital Campaign seeks to provide much-needed social services within the synod. For Information call: Norma Aamodt-Nelson at 425 778-2159 or Helen Hustad at 425 514-0465.

- **Haik Orphanage** is an orphanage in Ethiopia that the Northwest Washington Synod is supporting. Without our support these children would have no place to go. To learn more about the orphanage contact the synod at office@lutheransnw.org. To give to the children, send your contribution, marked Haik Orphanage, to: Northwest Washington Synod, Region 1 FSO, 766 John St, Ste B, Seattle WA 98109.
- **The Compass Center in Seattle** offers men and women who live on the streets of downtown Seattle a viable chance to achieve a life of stability, security and independence. Visit www.compasscenter.org.
- **Lutheran Alliance to Create Housing (LATCH)** is a coalition of Lutheran congregations in the Seattle area whose mission is to build safe and nurturing communities that recognize the right to affordable housing. Visit www.latch.org.
- The ELCA has created a **Gift-Giving Catalog** that helps you decide where you want your financial gift to go. Your support goes where you cannot go, as your representatives help heal broken lives and spread the gospel to the four corners of the earth. For more information visit www.elca.org/giving.
- **Lutheran World Relief (LWR)** partners with SERRV through the LWR Handcraft Project. The catalog features the work of artisans in developing countries. By purchasing through SERRV you are able to help them earn a better wage and have better working conditions. To request a catalog visit www.lwr.org/handcraft/index.asp.
- **MissionFuture4KIDZ** allows you to give a financial gift to children under 16 years of age and support mission in the ELCA at the same time! The minimum investment is $50, and you (and others) may add to the investment as desired (for birthdays, graduations, etc.) For more information contact Margie Fiedler at the ELCA Mission Investment Fund, 1-877-886-3522 or visit www.elca.org/mif.
- **ELCA World Hunger** helps fight hunger and poverty in the U.S. and around the world. Visit www.elca.org/hunger.
- **ELCA Disaster Response** offers help and hope to those who have been impacted by hurricanes or other natural disasters. Visit www.elca.org/disaster.
- **Lutheran Peace Fellowship (LPF)** strives to empower Lutherans in their peacemaking activities by providing a wide range of expertise, encouragement and resources. Visit www.lutheranpeace.org.
- **Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS)** in California is the Lutheran seminary that is closest to us in the Pacific Northwest. Supporting the seminary supports our future pastors. Visit www.plts.edu.

Toys, Toys and More Toys

or Something Else for Christmas

Editor's Note: These are just a few ideas of alternative gift ideas for family and friends. This is not meant to be a complete list.

News and Notes

- **Please join us,** the synod staff, for our annual **Christmas Open House** at the synod office from 2 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16.
- **Our Savior in Issaquah** recently held a Service of Dedication for their newly constructed Sanctuary. The service was held on October 24. "Our goal was to build a new worship space and narthex that was beautiful, functional and affordable," says **Pastor Larry Thomas.** "Thanks to God, the members of Our Savior Lutheran Church, the architects and our builders, we accomplished our goal." Members and friends of the congregation have given over $700,000 towards the construction and furnishing of the new worship space. Another $350,000 has been pledged through June 2007. The expanded worship space includes new pews, a state-of-the-art sound system and new altar, pulpit and baptism font designed by Tim Berggren of Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- **Congratulations. We did it.** Across the country Lutherans were challenged to purchase 90 tons of "fairly traded" coffee in a year. We not only exceeded that challenge but continue to push it further. Through *Pour Justice to the Brim: The 90-Ton Challenge*, Lutherans purchased 99 tons of fairly traded coffee as of Oct. 1 and, in the process, affected lives and raised social justice issues.
- **Souper Bowl Sunday is February 6, 2005.** Visit www.souperbowl.org. This is one way that youth can participate in helping others by collecting money and canned food, selecting a charity of their choice, and sending their contribution directly to the charity of their choice. Recipients have ranged from soup kitchens and food banks to international missions and Habitat affiliates. The event is held annually on Super Bowl Sunday.

Video Resources

In The Resource Center

To reserve videos, contact Region 1 at 206-624-0093, ext. 100

In The Region 1 Resource Center

If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat—A Journey on Learning to Trust God.

The resource is designed for adult study in small groups, retreats and adult Sunday School. Teacher and author John Ortberg invites the viewer to consider the incredible potential that awaits outside their comfort zone. The six sessions (each 11-15 minutes in length) include: What's Water-Walking?; The Tragedy of the Unopened Gift; Find Your Calling and Get Your Feet Wet!; Facing our Challenges, Conquering Our Fears; Good News for Cave Dwellers; and Learning to Wait on Our Big God. It is available in both video (V-1368) and DVD (D8) formats. A Leader's Guide is included.

Within Our Family

To Keep In Our Prayers...

† **Rev. Jerry Buss, Oak Harbor in Oak Harbor,** was recently diagnosed with a benign brain tumor and underwent surgery at UCLA on October 11. He is now in Portland for radiation treatment and to participate in some sabbatical learning studies. Cards can be sent to Oak Harbor Lutheran Church, 1253 NW Second Ave, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

† **Jessica Sinn, daughter of Rev. Randy and Michelle Sinn,** North Lakewood, underwent abdominal surgery on October 26. She is home recuperating. Please keep Jessica and the Sinn family in your prayers.

† **Rebecca Grauer, daughter of Rev. Randy and Beth Grauer,** Christ the Servant, Bellingham. Rebecca needs prayers for strength and support. Cards can be sent to Rebecca at Christ the Servant Lutheran, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98226.

† **Sylvia Maier, wife of Rev. Don Maier (ret.),** underwent successful heart bypass surgery on Oct. 13. She is now home. Please keep Sylvia and her family in your prayers.

† **Cherilyn Anderson, wife of Rev. Arnold Anderson,** is now in remission.

† **Rev. Donna Reilly Williams** is recovering from hand and ankle surgeries.

† **Rev. Paul Wuest** is undergoing treatment for a recurrence of cancer. Cards may be sent to: 12718 SE 254th Ct; Kent, WA 98031; prwuest@comcast.net.

† **Rev. Robert Moylan (ret.)** as he continues to deal with progressive muscular dystrophy.

† **Rev. Jim Schoeld (ret.)** as he continues to learn to do new things.

† At the regular **Tuesday worship and synod staff meeting,** we pray for our pastors, churches and members. We pray for the health and healing of those we mention in our hearts. We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in our companion synods in Ethiopia and Russia. We pray for the pastors, congregations, and members of the Southwestern Texas Synod, as we are partnered with them by Churchwide. We pray for the people of Iraq and Afghanistan. We pray for peace.

Within Our Family depends upon you—not only for prayers, but also for your prayer requests. Contact the synod office with any additions or changes to this column at office@lutheransnw.org or 206-783-9292, toll free 1-800-244-6997.

Employment Opportunities

Holden Village Receives Lilly Grant

Holden Village recieved a $922,000 Lilly Endowment grant for support of programs The three-year grant begins in January 2005 and has 3 basic components: program, research and capital. To accomplish these goals, we are looking for new staff and resource people. Job descriptions will be available before the end of 2004. Please pass on names and suggestions to the directors, c/o Holden Village, HC00 Stop 2, Chelan, WA 98816. For job descriptions and details please visit http://www.holdenvillage.org/news/lillyendowment.html

Family and Youth Director

Mt. Si Lutheran Church (ELCA) is seeking an individual with the gifts and skills to enrich and expand the family and youth ministries of our congregation. Qualifications include: a deep Christian faith coupled as well with basic understanding of Lutheran theology; solid leadership, organization, communication and "people" skills; a genuine love and respect for youth; strong desire and demonstrated ability to work with families and youth in a Christ-centered environment. A degree in a church-related field plus experience is strongly preferred.Position is full-time with beneftis, Salary is DOE. Send resumes by Nov. 28 to jtf2003@comcast.net, or fax to 425-888-5916.

Acoustical Guitarist

Harbour Pointe in Mukilteo is looking for an acoustical guitarist, age 16 to 35 years old, to play music and lead singing for Junior and Senior High Groups: one to two Wednesdays per month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; and one to two Sundays per month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Pay is negotiable. Please contact Pastor Mark Saline, Harbour Pointe Lutheran Church, 5425 Harbour Pointe Blvd., Mukilteo, WA 98275; phone 425-353-5253.

Items Needed and Wanted

Piano Bench
Needed

St. John United, Seattle is in need of a piano bench. If you can help please contact Laura Hanson at St. John, 206-784-1040 or email office@stjohnunited.org.

Pews
New Home Needed

Upholstered padded seats with traditional wood caprail. Cantilevered, open wood-covered ends. Hymnal racks with card, pencil and communion cup holders. Very good condition. Approximately 400 linear feet. Contact Craig Gillin 425-649-0192, gillindesign@comcast.net; or Our Savior, Issaquah, 425-392-4169.

Editor's Note: For the most up-to-date listing of transitions and mobility please visit our website at www.lutheransnw.org and click on Leadership. That website page is updated weekly, when

Transitions

	Location/Event	Effective Date
Anniversaries		
Trinity	Everett, Centennial	10/31/2004
Calls Accepted		
Heidi Fish	Lutherwood	9/7/2004
Ordinations/Commissionings/Installations		
Larry Olsen	Edison, Bow	10/3/2004
Retirements		
Donald H. Maier		10/1/2004

Mobility

In Call Process	Position	Status	Current Pastor, Interim Pastor, or Supply Pastor
Bellevue, Cross of Christ	PR	TR	Tim Wolbrecht
Bellingham, Our Saviour's	PR	TR	James Miley, Interim
Burien, Glendale	PR	P	Douglas Stensby, Interim
Edmonds, St. Matthew	PR	TR	Dennis Schaffert, Interim
Everett, Faith	PR	NV	Interim pending
Everett, Our Savior's	A	C	David Parks, Pastor
Mountlake Terrace, Bethesda	PR	TR	Steve Nelson, Interim
Renton, Cross & Crown	PR	I	Kate Schecter, Supply
Seattle, Peace	PR	TR	Linda Nou, Interim
Seattle, St. Paul's of Shorewood	PR	TR	Gary Larson, Interim
Trinity, Point Roberts	PR	C	Supply

Mobility Position Key:

PR = Pastor
A = Associate
AIM = Associate in Ministry
DM = Diaconal Minister
A/SP = Associate with Special Emphasis
contact Synod Office)

Mobility Status Key:

I = Interviewing
C = Calling
NV = New Vacancy
V = Vacancy
SC = Synod Call
TR = Transition process
P = Profile presented (receiving nominations)
TR/DO = Div for Outreach Transformation Process

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Northwest Washington Synod
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Soundings
December 2004